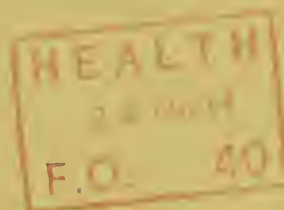


BOROUGH OF REIGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
T. H. Bingham, M.D., D.P.H.

Together with the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
R. Frankham, M.A.P.H.I.

1963



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BOROUGH OF REIGATE
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report on the public health, sanitary circumstances and vital statistics of the Borough of Reigate in the year 1963.

The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 1/64, and contains the information requested in the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

There was no unusual or noteworthy prevalence of infectious or other illness in the Borough in 1963, apart from mild influenza and non-specific respiratory ailments, which were fairly widespread for a short period in the latter part of January, and the expected biennial epidemic of measles amongst the child population, which reached its peak during February and March. The rates of prevalence of the other notifiable diseases were, without exception, amongst the lowest yet observed in the Borough and, especially so, as regards all forms of tuberculosis, which fell to a record low level. The complete absence of cases of acute poliomyelitis and other infectious diseases of the nervous system, and the very low incidence of bacterial food poisoning and other intestinal infections, were also favourable features. With regard to the latter, the occurrence of cases of enteric fever amongst visitors returning from locally infected holiday resorts on the Continent called for increased vigilance and precautionary measures by the Public Health Department.

On the preventive side, there was no major change in the arrangements for protective inoculation against the ever-widening range of diseases for which effective immunising agents are now available. The rates of acceptance were, on the whole, well maintained, though the number of primary vaccinations of young infants against small-pox was very much smaller than usual. This was mainly in consequence of the advice given by the Ministry of Health that routine infant vaccination is preferably postponed until the second year, when there is less risk of serious complications. It is accordingly assumed that the observed reduction in primary vaccinations is likely to be temporary. The latest important advance in the field of active prevention - the substitution of oral vaccine against poliomyelitis for the Salk vaccine, which is given by injection - has very decided advantages from the immunological and epidemiological points of view and has, moreover, greatly encouraged acceptance of artificial protection against the disease. A combined vaccine against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis is now available, but has not yet been officially approved for general use.

In most respects the vital statistics for the year compare favourably with any recently recorded in the Borough and with those for the country as a whole. The recorded birth rate of 13.9 per 1,000 of the population, though slightly lower than that for 1962, is above the average for the preceding ten years. The death rate for infants under the age of one year approximates to the average and is not unfavourable, while the proportion registered as still-born - 6.0 per 1,000 total births - is by far the lowest yet observed in the Borough and is roughly one-third of the corresponding rate for England and Wales. The crude death rate of 13.6 is the highest for the past ten years and is 1.2 above the annual average for that period. This is entirely due to greatly increased mortality from non-specific respiratory illness, particularly amongst the elderly.

Other features of interest in the analysis of the mortality assigned to the area are decline in the over-all death rate from diseases of the heart and circulation, with relative increases in the numbers resulting from coronary disease and hypertension, and in the total deaths from all forms of cancer and malignant disease, most marked in relation to cancer of the lung; the death rate (adjusted) for the latter, namely, 0.35 per thousand of the population, is the lowest for several years and falls well below the corresponding National rate of 0.51. Deaths from injuries sustained by the elderly in accidental falls and those resulting from inadvertent or intentional overdosage of barbiturates and other sedative drugs are little fewer than usual, but their importance lies in the fact that they are very largely preventable; the frequency of such occurrences, as judged by the numbers of cases admitted to hospital, is a matter of serious concern.

Reference is made to the action taken in relation to persons living in grossly insanitary conditions and unable to give proper attention to their personal and physical needs, and where the circumstances do not warrant compulsory removal to hospital or other suitable premises. The assistance given in such cases by the Borough Public Health Department, the Divisional Welfare Officer and the domiciliary services available through the County Council has in most cases so improved the general standard of care, cleanliness and amenity as to obviate the need for formal action.

Further progress was made during the year in implementing the Council's programme for the clearance of unfit dwellings. Twenty-eight such dwellings in Redhill were officially represented as suitable for clearance, and preliminary inspections were made of other properties in the same area with a view to similar action. There were, in addition, the usual routine housing inspections and special visits made in connection with applications for Council housing accommodation.

There was no important change in the routine activities of the Public Health Department in connection with the measures taken to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies, the prevention of atmospheric pollution, noise abatement, sanitary inspection, supervision and control of caravan sites, duties under the Factories and Shops Act, disinfection and disinfestation and other matters directly concerned with communal health and environmental hygiene. The senior staff of the Department frequently gave talks on health subjects to various types of organised audiences, in addition to the individual advice and instruction given in the course of routine visiting, the display of posters and the distribution of leaflets, thus augmenting the health education activities of the Divisional Health Service.

I should again like to place on record my very sincere appreciation of the loyal and conscientious service given by every member of my staff in the year under review and my indebtedness to Mr. R. Frankham, Chief Public Health Inspector, for his invaluable assistance and close co-operation in all matters concerning the work of the Department. I also gratefully acknowledge the help I have received from Officers engaged in other departments of the Corporation and the support and consideration kindly extended to me throughout the year by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. BINGHAM

Medical Officer of Health.

Caberfeigh,
Redhill.

20th July, 1964.

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water)	..	..	..	..	10,255 acres
Population, Census 1961	..	..	..	..	53,751
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year 1963	..	..	..	..	54,890
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1963 according to Rate Books	..	..	..	..	16,195
Rateable Value (1st April, 1963)	..	..	..	..	£2,736,193
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	£10,800

Population

The resident population of the Borough at mid-year, 1963, including members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area, was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 54,890. This represents a population increment of 210, or 0.3 per cent., in the preceding twelve months, of which 75 is attributable to natural increase (i.e. excess of live births over total deaths) and 135 to migration into the area. The population gains under both headings are the lowest for ten years, due in the case of natural increase to a fall in the birth rate in association with a rise in the death rate.

Births

The 823 live births assigned to the Borough in 1963 represent a recorded birth rate of 13.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is 0.3 below the corresponding rate for 1962, but slightly exceeds the average for the preceding ten years. When adjusted by the prescribed formula for the purpose of comparison, the recorded rate is advanced to 15.5, which compares with the National rate of 18.2 for the same period.

The illegitimacy rate of 49 per 1,000 live births is one of the highest recently recorded in the Borough, though there was a substantial decline in the proportion of illegitimate stillbirths. The illegitimacy rate for England and Wales was 69.

Stillbirths

There were only five registered stillbirths, all of legitimate infants born in local maternity units. The stillbirth rate for the year - 6.0 per 1,000 total births - is the lowest yet observed in the Borough and is very considerably below the corresponding rate of 17.2 for England and Wales.

Deaths

There were 748 registered deaths (362 of males and 386 of females) of persons normally resident in the Borough. The crude or recorded death rate calculated on this total was 13.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 12.8 in 1962 and an average rate of 12.4 in the preceding ten years. When adjusted for comparison, the recorded rate is reduced to 11.3, which compares with a rate of 12.2 for the country as a whole.

The numbers of deaths of each sex in various age groups were as follows:-

<u>Age group</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	7	5	12
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	2	3
1 - 5 years	2	1	3
5 - 15 years	2	1	3
15 - 25 years	5	2	7
25 - 35 years	3	2	5
35 - 45 years	5	5	10
45 - 55 years	18	13	31
55 - 65 years	62	35	97
65 - 75 years	96	66	162
75 and over	161	254	415
	<u>362</u>	<u>386</u>	<u>748</u>

The fifteen deaths in the 0 - 1 age group included eleven of infants who failed to survive one week. With the exception of one resulting from inattention at birth, all the infant deaths took place in hospital and were attributed to congenital abnormality (7), prematurity (5) and acute respiratory infection (2). The infant mortality rate for the year was 18.2 per 1,000 live births, which approximates to the annual average for the Borough and compares favourably with the corresponding rate of 21.1 for England and Wales.

Deaths in the other age groups and their distribution between the sexes are generally in accord with the usual pattern, apart from relative increases in the older age groups.

As regards the certified causes of death, the most noteworthy feature was the very sharp rise in the mortality ascribed to pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. This, in the main, related to persons in the advanced age groups and was directly influenced by the prolonged spell of exceptionally severe weather in the early weeks of the year and the occurrence of respiratory complications of a relatively mild form of influenza that was prevalent at that time.

The number of deaths from diseases of the heart and circulatory system, which accounted for rather more than one-third of the total from all causes, was not appreciably or significantly greater than usual. There were, however, relative increases in the numbers ascribed to coronary disease, chiefly amongst men of late middle age, and hypertension in elderly females. Diseases of the cerebral vessels, which may appropriately be included under this heading, did not exceed the average for recent years.

The second principal cause of mortality, namely, all forms of cancer and malignant disease, made rather less than their usual contribution to the general death rate. There were 105 deaths recorded under this heading, as compared with 113 in 1962 and 121 in 1961. The reduction was chiefly due to a decline in deaths from cancer of the lung to the lowest level observed in the Borough in the past four years and represents a mortality rate of 0.35 per 1,000 of the estimated population; the corresponding National figure for 1963 was 0.51. There were lesser reductions in the numbers of deaths resulting from cancer of the stomach and of the female reproductive organs, and an increase in the number attributed to leukaemia.

Seven persons were fatally injured in motor vehicle accidents, as compared with twelve in 1962, six in 1961 and eight in 1960; four of those killed were elderly pedestrians. There were sixteen deaths from other accidental causes, including five indirectly due to fractures sustained by the elderly in accidental falls and one to over-dosage with barbiturates. The frequency of such occurrences is not fully reflected by the number of fatal cases; no fewer than twenty-six other elderly persons were removed to hospital for treatment of fractures and other injuries following accidental falls at home and there were fourteen emergency admissions of cases of inadvertent over-dosage of barbiturates and other sedative drugs. In

addition, these drugs were resorted to as the means of self destruction in three of the five recorded deaths from suicide, the remaining two being due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

The numbers of deaths ascribed to other specified causes are set out in Table III and do not indicate unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year are set out in Table I and comparative statistics for the years 1934 to 1963 are shown in Table II.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47 (As amended by the
National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

It was not necessary to take action under this Section to secure the compulsory removal to hospital or other suitable premises of persons who were not being properly cared for in their own homes.

Five cases in which it was thought such action might be considered were brought to the notice of the Public Health Department during the year. All were elderly persons living alone and suffering from some degree of mental confusion and forgetfulness that made it difficult for them, unaided, to give proper attention to themselves or their immediate surroundings. Two had consistently refused institutional accommodation that had been offered to them. In none of these cases was there any question of illness or serious disability, other than the usual infirmities of old age, nor valid grounds for compulsory removal. Nevertheless, the low standard of personal care and the insanitary state of the dwelling in each case urgently required the attention of one or other of the domiciliary social services. The assistance thereby given obviated the need for further action and was adequate to ensure and maintain a reasonably satisfactory standard of comfort, hygiene and amenity. In four cases the staff of the Reigate Public Health Department undertook thorough cleansing and disinfection of the premises and the removal of offensive accumulations of household rubbish. One case required the whole time attendance for five days of two home helps, who qualified for extra payment because of the disgusting and uncongenial tasks required of them; in this case the National Assistance Board agreed to replace bedding and clothing that had to be destroyed and the South Eastern Gas Board undertook free replacement of unserviceable gas cooking and heating appliances.

Special reference should again be made to the invaluable assistance and close co-operation of Mr. A. J. Lovelock, the Principal Divisional Welfare Officer, in dealing with cases of this nature, and to the value of the periodic visits made by the Health Visitors to certain elderly persons, and more especially to those recently discharged from hospital, with a view to the provision of any official or voluntary help that may be necessary. These visits also afford an opportunity to note early signs of deterioration in cases under supervision, so that timely action may be taken. It is probable that the utilisation of the services of the Health Visitors in this manner could, with advantage, be extended in the future.

TABLE I

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICSLive Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	405	Females	377	Total	782
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	17	Females	24	Total	41

Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.9
Do.	1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.3
Do.	for the five years 1958 to 1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.8

Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	4.9
---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Still Births

Legitimate	..	..	Males	2	Females	3	Total	5
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.0
Do.	do.	1962	..	..	..	..	..	22.0

Total Live and Still Births

Males	424	Females	404	Total	828
-------	-----	---------	-----	-------	-----

Infant Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	7	Females	7	Total	14
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	1	Females	-	Total	1

Infant Death Rate:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	18.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..				17.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..				24.3

Deaths of infants under the age of 4 weeks:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	6	Females	5	Total	11
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	1	Females	-	Total	1

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.5
--	----	----	------

Maternal Mortality:-

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	..	..	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	..	1.20

Deaths (nett):-

Males	..	362	Females	..	386	Total	748
Do.	1962:-						
Males	..	350	Females	..	355	Total	705

Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.6
Do.	1962	..	..	..	..	..	12.8
Do.	for the five years 1958 to 1962	..	..	..	..	..	12.4

Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	58.5
---	------

Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	105
Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	-
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	..	-

...

TABLE II

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1934 - 1963

Year	Estimated Population	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
						Reigate	England
1934	35,400	417	12.4	409	11.5	39	59
1935	35,720	399	11.8	407	11.3	52	57
1936	36,000	456	13.2	443	12.3	36	59
1937	36,360	451	13.0	447	12.2	40	58
1938	36,630	478	13.6	415	11.3	32	53
1939	37,090	463	13.1	454	11.7	34	50
1940	41,970	447	11.1	579	14.2	34	55
1941	42,040	519	13.6	574	13.6	67	59
1942	40,060	581	16.5	496	12.3	45	49
1943	38,400	565	16.6	509	13.2	45	49
1944	36,360	593	17.9	524	14.4	41	46
1945	36,670	569	15.5	497	13.5	33	46
1946	39,690	677	18.9	493	12.4	32	43
1947	40,480	744	19.6	534	13.2	20	41
1948	41,770	611	15.6	453	10.8	28	34
1949	42,150	592	14.8	518	12.3	37	32
1950	42,030	554	13.7	564	13.4	22	30
1951	42,220	530	13.2	551	13.0	20	29
1952	42,460	599	14.4	532	12.5	21	27
1953	44,890	654	15.2	637	14.2	30	26
1954	47,610	666	14.4	572	12.0	13	25
1955	48,180	637	13.6	585	12.1	17	25
1956	48,730	663	14.3	592	12.1	7	24
1957	49,330	681	13.8	564	11.6	13	23
1958	49,760	750	15.1	655	13.2	20	22
1959	50,580	706	13.9	586	11.5	14	22
1960	51,230	793	15.4	660	12.8	18	21
1961	54,260	790	14.5	642	11.8	12	21
1962	54,680	841	15.3	705	12.8	17	21
1963	54,890	823	14.9	748	13.6	18	21

TABLE III

Causes of Death in the Borough of Reigate
during 1963

					M	F	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	3	-	3
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	1	-	1
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	1	1	2
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..			-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	6	5	11
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..		21	3	24
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	1	18	19
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	-	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..			21	24	45
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	4	-	4
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	7	-	7
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..		35	74	109
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	76	56	132
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..		5	12	17
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	44	60	104
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	14	12	26
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	4	3	7
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	34	36	70
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	31	14	45
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..			9	5	14
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..		3	3	6
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..			-	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..		2	2	4
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..		4	-	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..		-	1	1
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	1	2	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..			23	36	59
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	4	3	7
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	5	11	16
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	3	2	5
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..		-	-	-
Totals					362	386	748

SECTION II

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Every dwelling-house in the Borough has a continuous and direct supply of water from the public mains, with the exception of a bungalow in Gatton Park, which has a piped and filtered supply from a nearby spring, and a detached cottage on the outskirts of Reigate, which derives its water supply from a shallow well. The water from both the latter sources is of doubtful bacterial quality and periodic visits are accordingly made to the occupiers of the premises to ensure that the precautions already explained to them are being observed. The substitution of a mains supply is not reasonably practicable in either instance.

About 150 caravans on approved sites in the Borough are supplied with mains water by means of standpipes, which in most cases are within reasonable distance of the caravans. Twenty-seven other caravans have a mains supply to each caravan, in twenty-five instances through an intermediate storage tank.

The mains supply, which is distributed in the whole area by the East Surrey Water Company, was adequate in quantity throughout the year and was augmented, when necessary, by distribution of water from the reserve boreholes at The Clears and Buckland. The water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers. Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted at least twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about once a week under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company, thus avoiding duplication of sampling. Samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the analyst's reports are circulated for the information of the other districts concerned. These reports invariably indicated that the chemical and bacterial purity of the water reached a very high standard. The following report is typical of those received during the year:-

"This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals, apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is moderately hard in character and contains no excess of mineral constituents. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

Fluoride is present naturally and in varying amount in almost all drinking waters; the local supply has a fluoride content of 0.1 part per million. The many carefully controlled scientific studies conducted in this country and elsewhere, and the observations made over many years in areas with high and low concentrations of fluoride in the drinking water, have shown very conclusively that a content of 1 part per million very greatly reduces the incidence of dental decay in children, with the benefit continuing into adult life, and that fluoride in this concentration does not involve any risk to health, nor noticeable alteration in the character and quality of the water. With these considerations in mind and having regard to the alarmingly high prevalence of dental decay amongst the child population of the country, the Minister of Health gave general approval for all local health authorities, who so desire, to make arrangements for the addition of fluoride to water supplies that are deficient in it naturally. The advisability of making such arrangements was considered by the Surrey County Council, as local health authority for the area, and they decided to invite the views of the district councils on the matter. The Reigate Borough Council did not favour the addition of fluoride to the local water supply. The County Council have not yet made a decision in the matter.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough. Both are covered baths owned and controlled by the Corporation, and are equipped with the necessary plant for continuous filtration and chlorination. The baths are filled from the public mains and are emptied and re-filled if the chemical quality of the water tends to fall below the required standard; such action was not necessary in 1963.

In addition to the chemical tests that are made at least five times a day by the Baths Manager, samples of water from both baths were submitted to analysis at the height of the bathing season, and were reported to be of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.

The Analyst's reports on samples of water from the three open-air swimming pools at local schools were equally satisfactory. The system of hand chlorination formerly in use at one of these schools was replaced in the early part of the year by suitable plant for automatic and continuous filtration and chlorination; the other two open-air pools are already so equipped. The Public Health Inspectors who periodically inspect these pools are provided with the necessary apparatus for checking the efficiency of the chlorination process.

Close and careful attention has been given to the possible risk of spread of verrucaplantaritis and other foot infections by attendance at the public swimming baths in Reigate and Redhill. In consultation with the Baths Manager, the precautionary measures that have been in operation at both baths for some years have been reviewed and, in some respects, amended; they are considered to be the best practicable and available means of preventing the spread of infections of this nature. Obligatory foot inspection at the baths has been suggested; this would present very real practical difficulties, even if the attendants were willing to undertake it and the bathers to submit to it. It is not without significance that the investigation of cases that have been reported from time to time has pointed to other sources of infection that are not so readily amenable to official control.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The arrangements for drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal are reasonably adequate in all parts of the Borough. Extensions and improvement carried out by the Council during the year included the laying of 1022 lineal yards of surface water sewer and 460 yards of foul sewer, and the construction of two new sedimentation tanks, with a total capacity of 360,000 gallons, at the Earlswood Sewage Disposal Works. In addition, 944 lineal yards of surface water sewer and 659 lineal yards of foul sewer were laid by private enterprise in connection with housing development.

There was no important change in the arrangements made by the Borough Engineer & Surveyor for the emptying and disposal of cesspool contents. On dwelling-house with cesspool drainage was connected to the public sewer.

Thirty-eight premises have a septic-tank/filter-bed system of sewage disposal. Two installations, draining fourteen of these properties, were overhauled and repaired during the year. This was necessary in both cases because of complete breakdown of the system, resulting from lack of proper maintenance. The repair of one of these installations involved major works, including the provision of a new and improved filter-bed and sub-irrigation.

Closet Accommodation

All dwellings in the Borough are on the water carriage system, with the exception of about eight properties on the rural outskirts of the district, where the apparatus available is a pail or chemical closet, and disposal of sink waste liquids is to some form of cesspool or soakaway. None of these properties was converted to the water carriage system during the year.

Rivers and Streams

The streams and surface water courses in the area are regularly inspected and all necessary action is taken to render them free from obstruction, pollution and rodent infestation.

Public Cleansing

I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following information relating to the arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse:-

As far as it is possible, a weekly collection of house refuse is in operation in all parts of the Borough, but the normal service was frequently disrupted during the year because of difficulties in recruiting and retaining an adequate labour force. Other local authorities are having similar difficulties. Possible means of improving the position are at present under consideration.

The growing practice of substituting gas or electricity for solid fuel for space heating of domestic and business premises and the rapidly expanding use of disposable containers in modern packaging have greatly increased the bulk and reduced the density of the refuse to be collected. This change in the character of the refuse has made it necessary to replace old type collecting vehicles by those of larger capacity, as occasion arises.

The charges for removal of trade refuse have been reviewed and revised. This service to local offices and industrial premises continues to work smoothly, the frequency of collection depending on the nature of the trade waste and the convenience of the firms concerned.

It has been the practice for many years to remove all kinds of domestic discards. The demand for this service is now greater than ever and special arrangements for the removal of bulky articles, such as household and kitchen furniture, etc., have become a weekly feature. There can, accordingly, be no excuse for promiscuous dumping of such articles on the roadside or on private or public open spaces.

Another very important contribution to the efforts being made to improve and preserve the tidiness of the Borough is the scheme for disposal of unwanted or abandoned motor vehicles. These may either be delivered to the Refuse Disposal Works or be collected by arrangement, and are disposed of at a moderate charge.

After the extraction of waste paper, bottles, textiles, metals and other material of salvage value, the bulk of the refuse is disposed of by incineration at the Earlswood Depot. The total quantity dealt with in 1963 was 19,617 tons, as compared with 18,237 tons in the previous year. The cost of the service was reduced by £21,308 from the sale of salvaged materials.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in respect of them will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Shops and Offices

Inspections for the purposes of the Shops Act, 1950, continue to be made as and when necessary.

In accordance with local practice, all plans submitted to the Borough Engineer & Surveyor relating to shops are passed to the Chief Public Health Inspector to enable him to offer advice or suggestions, more particularly with regard to ventilation of shop fronts, lighting, sufficiency of sanitary accommodation, water supply and drainage.

The Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963, which makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in such premises, became law in July, 1963, but its operation was deferred until a date to be announced in 1964. The Act is one of considerable detail and its general provisions should ultimately achieve major improvement in the standards adopted in shops and offices; need for uniform legal standards in regard to the latter in particular has, for many years, been a matter of pressing concern.

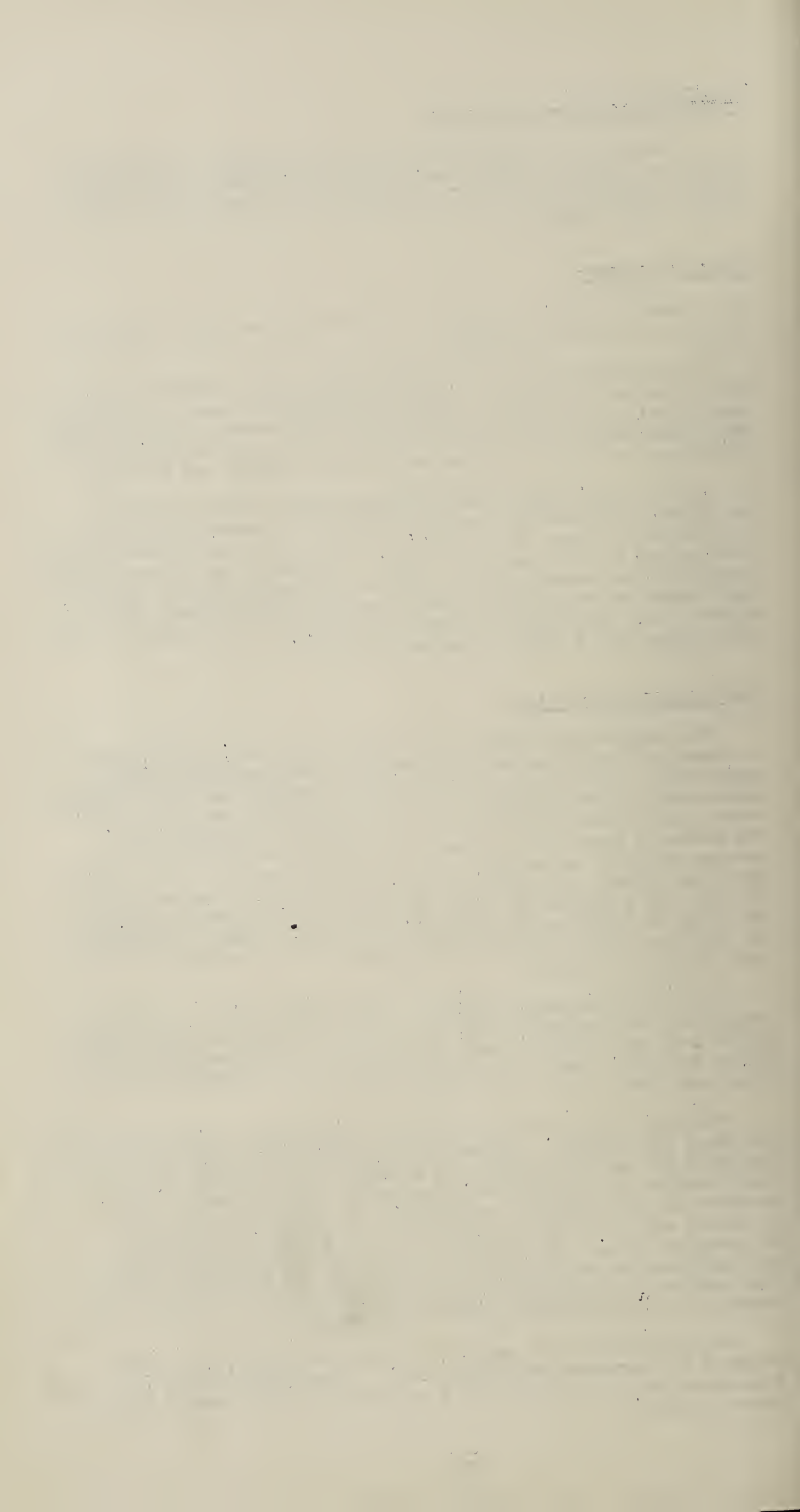
Camping and Caravan Sites

The Corporation Caravan Site in Three Arch Road, Redhill, has accommodation for a maximum of thirty-nine caravans and is almost exclusively restricted to applicants having residential or occupational connections with the Borough. As far as possible, one plot is kept vacant and so immediately available for urgent and special cases. The necessary improvement of the general amenities of the site to conform as nearly as possible with the Model Standards of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, have now been completed. The site has continued to serve its purpose satisfactorily and to meet the needs of local caravan dwellers. There were eight new lettings in 1963, and a total of forty-six families were in occupation at some time during this period.

The fifteen caravans remaining on the private site in Earlswood acquired by the Council in 1961 for eventual closure and utilisation of the land for permanent housing development were removed before the end of the year, eight being allotted plots on the permanent site in Three Arch Road.

There are also two privately owned caravan sites with accommodation for about 142 caravans. At one of these sites agreed extensions were completed for the accommodation of caravans of the "Mobile Home" class, each provided with mains water, electricity, internal water closet, bathroom and main drainage connection. The plots for these were specially and individually prepared for the particular caravans to be placed on them. The required works at the other site to effect the improvements necessary to comply with the Model Standards have been postponed because of illness of the site owner and delays in the provision of a satisfactory electricity supply.

No new licences were granted in respect of individual caravans intended for permanent residential use. One existing licence was renewed and another continued on a three-year licence granted twelve months earlier.



Atmospheric Pollution

No complaint of nuisance from smoke or fumes was received in 1963.

The attention of the Public Health Department was drawn to smell from an asphaltting plant temporarily in use for roofing purposes on a building site and to a number of garden bonfire incidents, all of which were successfully dealt with informally.

There were six notifications of the installation of new boiler plant above the defined rating or capacity, three of them being on domestic premises.

As a matter of routine, the Public Health Inspectors make timed observations of the emission of smoke from trade and industrial premises. When this is deemed to be excessive, instructions are given with regard to the correct operation and maintenance of the plant and the most suitable type of fuel to be used in it. In 1963, thirty-four observations were made of seven industrial premises, involving forty-five visits by Public Health Inspectors.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Two cases of minor infestations with bed bugs were investigated and dealt with during the year. Such infestations are now of rare occurrence in the Borough.

Registered Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.

Factories Act, 1961

In accordance with the requirements of Section 153 (i) (a) of the Factories Act, 1961, I submit the following particulars of action taken during 1963 in relation to factory premises:-

(1) Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	18	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	189	86	-	-
(iii) Others	35	42	-	-
TOTALS	245	146	-	-

(2) Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	-	-	-
TOTALS	9	9	-	1	-

(3) Out Work Sections 133 and 134

In compliance with the requirements of Section 133 (i) (c), notice was given by one local employer in respect of an out worker engaged on the altering of wearing apparel.

Nine lists were received from other Authorities in relation to twenty-three out workers, seven of whom were engaged on the making or altering of wearing apparel and the remainder on stuffed toy making. It was found, on inspection, that the work was not in any instance being done in unwholesome premises; no action was required in respect of contravention.

SECTION III

HOUSING

Statistical particulars relating to the demolition, closure and repair of unfit houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The particulars supplied under these headings in respect of the year 1963, are briefly summarised as follows:-

(a)	(i)	Houses demolished in Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957, Section 42)	.. .. .	32
	(ii)	Families displaced from Clearance Areas	..	11 (28 persons)
(b)		Individual unfit houses dealt with (Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 & 17) -		
	(i)	Demolished	.. .. .	5
	(ii)	Closed	.. .. .	1
	(iii)	Families displaced	.. .. .	2 (4 persons)
(c)		Unfit houses made fit -		
	(i)	Informally - by owner	.. .. .	129
	(ii)	After formal notice	.. .. .	2
The following information is of interest:-				
(d)		Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)		362
(e)		Number of dwelling-houses - included in (d) above - inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	.. .. .	103
(f)		Number of dwelling-houses represented as unfit and suitable for statutory action -		
	(i)	Under Section 42, Housing Act, 1957	..	28
	(ii)	Under Sections 16 & 17, Housing Act, 1957		1
	(iii)	Under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957		Nil
	(iv)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health		Nil
(g)	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1962	.. .. .	2
	(ii)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1963	.. .. .	2
	(iii)	Number of cases relieved during 1963		2
	(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1963	.. .. .	2

Official representations were submitted during the year in respect of twenty-eight dwelling-houses, comprised in three Clearance Areas in the Cromwell Road district of Redhill. These were approved by the Council and three Compulsory Purchase Orders were made, to include the properties in question and also adjoining land required for satisfactory re-development. The Orders were not opposed by the owners of the properties or by other interested parties and were awaiting the formal confirmation of the Minister at the end of the year.

A Closing Order was made in respect of one house that was officially represented as unfit for human habitation.

At the end of 1963, a total of 279 unfit dwellings had been demolished or closed and 244 families, comprising 673 persons, had been rehoused under the Council's Clearance Programmes.

The number of houses inspected for housing defects and the number of these recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, both show substantial increase on the corresponding figures for 1962.

The Council's Housing Manager has kindly supplied the following particulars with regard to rehousing:-

1.	<u>Number of new dwellings completed during the year</u>	
	Erected by Borough Council	52
	Erected by other Local Authorities	1
	Erected by private enterprise	135
		<hr/> 188
2.	<u>Number of flatlets for elderly people, obtained from conversions</u>	24
3.	<u>Families rehoused from waiting list:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	13
	In permanent Council flats	55
	In old people's bungalows	2
	In old people's flatlets	19
	In miscellaneous property	43
		<hr/> 132
4.	<u>Families rehoused from Clearance Areas:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	1
	In permanent Council flats	7
	In old people's bungalows, etc.	1
	In miscellaneous property	2
		<hr/> 11
5.	<u>Families transferred from miscellaneous property:-</u>	
	To Council houses	2
	To old people's flatlets	2
	To other miscellaneous property	6
		<hr/> 10
6.	<u>Families transferred from one type of Council building to another:-</u>	97
7.	<u>Tenants of other Local Authorities who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	9
8.	<u>Tenants of private landlords who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	1

SECTION IV
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

In compliance with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) (Special Areas) (No.2) Order, 1954, all milk sold by retail in the Borough must be heat-treated, i.e. pasteurised or sterilised, with the exception of tuberculin-tested milk.

Milk supplies are sampled frequently on the lines and for the purposes mentioned in previous reports. The laboratory findings on samples examined in 1963 are summarised in Table IV, and show that the milk on sale locally reaches a very high standard of bacterial purity.

Of 23 samples of tuberculin-tested milk and 112 samples of pasteurised milk submitted for examination, 131 passed the prescribed test for keeping quality; the test could not usefully be applied to 3 samples because of the high atmospheric temperature at the time of the examination. The one remaining sample that failed to pass the methylene blue test was of tuberculin-tested farm-bottled milk. The matter was accordingly referred to the Divisional Milk Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food; subsequent samples from the same source were reported to be satisfactory.

All the samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk satisfied the prescribed tests, indicating that the heat treatment had been correctly and efficiently applied.

Three samples of tuberculin-tested milk submitted to biological examination were reported to be free from living organisms of tuberculosis. The number of samples so examined was curtailed at the request of the Laboratory Service because of shortage of test animals. This periodic biological test is confined to farm-bottled tuberculin-tested milk that will not be subjected to heat treatment before delivery to the consumer. There are now only two local producers of such milk, which is sold by retail at a dairy in the Borough.

The monthly collection of samples of milk for bacteriological examination from a dairy herd at an Institution in Redhill was continued throughout the year, at the request of the Ministry of Health. Fifteen samples from this source were submitted for examination and all were reported to be satisfactory.

TABLE IV
RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

1. Tests required by Regulations governing Special Designations

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue			Phosphatase		Turbidity
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Test Void	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory
Tuberculin-tested: 23	19	1	3	-	-	-
Tuberculin-tested (Pasteurised): 51	51	-	-	51	-	-
Pasteurised: 61	61	-	-	61	-	-
Sterilised: 6	-	-	-	-	-	6

2. Biological Examination

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilla +	% Tubercle Bacilli +
3	Nil	0.00

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960 and 1963

The Regulations of 1960 greatly simplified the administrative work in the issue of licences to dealers in designated milk. Such licences became valid outside the area of the licensing authority and supplementary licences were discontinued, dealer's (pre-packed milk) licences became available for any or all of the special designations and remained in force for five years, instead of one year, as formerly.

These Regulations were amended by The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 which provided, inter alia, that after 1964 "Untreated" shall replace "Tuberculin Tested" as the special designation for raw milk. Licensing for periods of five years will continue.

Six dealer's licences were issued in 1963. The licences in force at the end of the year were as follows:-

1 Pasteuriser's licence, in respect of a pasteurising plant at a dairy in Reigate.

29 Dealer's (pre-packed milk) licences, permitting the sale of milk of various designations from thirty-eight premises in the Borough.

Adulteration, etc.

No special action was necessary under Sections 47 and 48 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, nor under the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 to 1948, and the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1959.

All articles submitted to the Public Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives, in accordance with the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962.

A sample of sausages was reported by the Analyst to contain preservative and, although the amount was within permitted limits, its presence was not formally declared. It again transpired that the preservative was contained in the proprietary brand of seasoning used by the butcher, although there was no indication to that effect on the label. The contravention was brought to the notice of the manufacturers of the seasoning who took immediate steps to have the wording on the labels suitably amended.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food

Samples for chemical analysis are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. D. D. Moir, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., and samples of milk and ice-cream for biological and bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom.

There are now three premises in the Borough at which ice-cream is manufactured for sale. In each case soft ice-cream is made from a sterile cold mix in a freezing machine, from which it is directly dispensed through a nozzle. Two of the premises are sweet confectioner's shops and have been registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, while the other, a cafe, is exempt from registration. The proprietors of these establishments have accepted a code of practice formulated by the Chief Public Health Inspector for the proper control, cleansing and sterilisation of the freezing machines and equipment.

A total of 132 confectioners, grocers, fruiterers, newsagents, etc., are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream which, in every instance, is obtained pre-packed from one or other of the large manufacturing and distributing firms. Hotels catering establishments and cinemas are exempt from registration.

Seventeen samples of ice-cream - eight from registered retailers, eight from other establishments in the Borough and one from an ice-cream vehicle - were examined for bacterial quality by submission to the methylene-blue reduction test. Eleven of these were placed in provisional Grades I and II, indicating that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness had been observed in manufacture, storage and handling; the remaining six samples were placed in provisional Grade III. The latter had been taken at two catering establishments and one retail confectioner's shop, and two were of soft ice-cream. Detailed investigation, supervision and advice by the Public Health Inspectors resulted in satisfactory reports being obtained on subsequent samples from the premises in question.

A special investigation was made of the use, storage and handling of fresh cream at bakeries. This entailed visits by the Public Health Inspectors and the submission of samples of cream for bacteriological examination. The results of examination were generally very satisfactory, and the visits afforded the Inspectors an opportunity to stress the importance of strict hygienic precautions in the handling of fresh cream. The findings of these investigations were made available to a nearby local authority also interested in the subject.

SECTION V

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Borough are usually admitted to the Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise, they are sent to suitable hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region.

The thirty-four infectious cases requiring institutional care in 1963 were satisfactorily accommodated in local hospitals and maternity units. In addition, several cases of uncomplicated minor infections were admitted to hospital, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health, on grounds of inadequate facilities for home isolation.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

The action taken on receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease is fully described in previous reports.

The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out generally in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Memorandum issued jointly in 1956 by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Table V shows the numbers of cases of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

Smallpox

No confirmed case of smallpox was notified in the Borough in 1963. A suspected case was examined by the Medical Officer of Health, at the request of the medical practitioner in attendance, and diagnosed as unusually severe and atypical chicken-pox.

Two Borough residents who had recently returned to this country from smallpox infected areas were offered vaccination and were kept under surveillance for the prescribed period.

Scarlet Fever

The rate of prevalence of scarlet fever continued at the very low level that has been usual in recent years. The nine cases reported in 1963 were widely scattered in distribution and were reported to be very mild in clinical type. Home isolation was permitted and encouraged wherever the facilities for the purpose were reasonably satisfactory. Two convalescent cases were discovered in the course of routine investigation of contacts.

Diphtheria

For the twelfth consecutive year no confirmed or suspected case of diphtheria was reported in the Borough.

TABLE V

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED
DURING THE YEAR, 1963

	Cases notified in age periods											Totals	Total cases removed to hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	1	-	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	4	-
Whooping Cough	1	2	4	4	2	14	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	20	94	160	140	153	630	60	31	17	4	2	-	1	2
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	-	7	4	-	2	-	1	2	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	3	8	12	3	70 ‡
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	14	8	-	-	24	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	98	164	146	155	657	72	36	34	15	11	14	1423	34	72
Totals 1962	3	7	7	8	10	11	5	-	12	-	3	69	8	40

‡ All forms.

Whooping Cough

The prevalence and severity of whooping cough have declined very markedly in the past few years and more particularly since the introduction of routine protective vaccination. This trend continued in the year under review when thirty-one cases of the disease were reported, mainly in the months of November and December and amongst new entrants to infants' schools. The clinical course of the illness was generally mild, and especially so when modified by previous immunisation. The occurrence of multiple cases in the same households was relatively common.

Measles

Following the usual two-year cycle of periodicity, there was widespread prevalence of measles, predominantly amongst the infant and pre-school population, in the early part of the year. The outbreak reached a peak of maximum prevalence in February and, thereafter, gradually subsided, though scattered cases were being reported until the end of the year. The prevailing type of infection was not unduly severe, though special serum was supplied for the protection of two susceptible measles contacts who were in very poor health.

Poliomyelitis

For the fifth consecutive year no confirmed case of acute poliomyelitis was reported in the Borough.

Dysentery

The eighteen notified cases of bacillary dysentery included eight of Flexner infection which occurred in the form of a small outbreak at a residential institution in the month of February. The outbreak of this infection, which is not uncommon in such institutions, was rapidly and effectively brought under control.

The other ten cases were of the mild Sonne type and confirmed as such by laboratory investigation. These cases were widely distributed and did not appear to be in any way connected, except in two instances where several cases occurred in the same households. The routine investigation of home contacts led to the discovery of six symptomless carriers, in respect of whom appropriate precautionary measures were taken. One very elderly patient was removed to hospital as she could not be satisfactorily isolated and nursed in the old people's home in which she was resident.

Enteric Fever

No case of typhoid or para-typhoid fever was reported in the Borough in 1963. Following the occurrence of the disease in persons returning to this country from Zermatt, it was thought advisable to approach the managements of local water undertakings, catering and food handling establishments, hospitals, large industrial concerns, etc., offering facilities for examination of any members of their staffs who had recently visited Switzerland. It was also advised that members of school parties, youth clubs, etc., who proposed to visit Switzerland should be adequately protected by vaccination before their departure.

Pneumonia

The number of notified cases of pneumonia was very much smaller than usual. Almost all the cases occurred amongst persons in the older age groups and in the months of January and February, when mild influenzal infections were also prevalent; in fact, ten of the cases of pneumonia notified at that time were specifically stated to be secondary to influenza. Three cases were treated in hospital and the others were nursed in their own homes, with any necessary assistance from the domiciliary health services.

The total number of deaths ascribed to pneumonia was by far the highest recorded for many years. This is not necessarily of serious significance. With very few exceptions all the deaths were of persons of advanced age in whom the respiratory complication occurred as a terminal episode, or was secondary to heart failure, injury or chronic disease. The fact that pneumonia of this type is not officially notifiable explains the apparently inconsistent ratio of deaths to notified cases. There were, in fact, only two deaths amongst the notified cases.

Puerperal Pyrexia

There were twenty-four notifications of puerperal pyrexia (i.e. rise in temperature following childbirth). All related to patients confined in local maternity units, to which seventeen had been admitted from other areas. The total number of cases is much greater than usual, but this is largely explained by more complete notification, rather than an increase in actual prevalence of puerperal infection.

Food Poisoning

There was one notification of bacterial food poisoning. This related to an inmate of a residential institution who was found to be infected with a heat resistant strain of *Cl. Welchii*. In the course of routine investigations four members of the kitchen staff were found to be symptomless carriers of the infecting organism which was, in all probability, derived from minced veal. The fact that there had been recurring outbreaks of gastro-enteritis amongst the inmates of the institution in question would suggest that the infection had persisted for some time before its nature was recognised.

A Borough resident employed at a hospital in a neighbouring district was found to be a chronic carrier of *Salmonella typhimurium* which had probably given rise to small outbreaks of food poisoning at his place of employment. The necessary steps were taken to prevent the occurrence of further cases.

Other Diseases

Fourteen cases of acute illness that were believed to be infective in origin were admitted to hospital for investigation. Only three of these yielded laboratory evidence of bacterial or viral infection.

Tuberculosis

Particulars of the new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

The incidence of all forms of tuberculosis fell dramatically in the year under review to the lowest level yet observed in the Borough. There were only five new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs, compared with twenty-one in 1962, eighteen in 1961 and an average of twenty-six cases per annum in the preceding ten years. One of the new cases was found at post-mortem examination and all were in the older age groups, which possibly reflects the success of the protective measures adopted in relation to the child and adolescent population, coupled with the efficacy of modern methods of treatment, in greatly reducing the period of infectivity. No new case of non-respiratory tuberculosis was reported.

In addition to the new cases, i.e. those notified for the first time, there were reports of thirteen previously known cases of tuberculosis (12 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory) which had been notified elsewhere and had taken up residence in the Borough. The majority of these are under the supervision of the Chest Physician for the area.

TABLE VI

New cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1963, classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease

Age Periods	Cases						Deaths			
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F		M	F		M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
35 - 45 years	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	2	-		-	-		-	-	-	-
55 - 65 years	1	-		-	-		1	-	-	-
65 and upwards	2	-		-	-		2	-	-	-
TOTALS	5	-		-	-		3	-	-	-
Totals 1962	15	6		-	2		1	-	-	1

The number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in 1963, though higher than in 1962, is well below the average for the preceding decade and represents a mortality rate (adjusted) of 0.044 per 1,000 of the resident population. The corresponding figure for the country as a whole during the same period is 0.056.

It may be noted that deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, like notifications of this form of the disease, were confined to persons in the older age groups. In addition to these, five cases of tuberculosis died from other causes. There was no recorded mortality from non-respiratory tuberculosis.

The names of 78 cases were removed from the register of tuberculosis persons: 17 on leaving the district, 8 on death and 53 on complete recovery from the disease.

At the end of the year there were 235 known cases of tuberculosis in the Borough, including 214 (127 males and 87 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 21 (7 males and 14 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. In many of these the disease is quiescent or arrested, but all are regularly visited and supervised by the staff of the local Chest Clinic. The total number of cases represents a reduction of 61 on the corresponding figure for 1962.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and employed in the milk trade) nor under Section 127 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee, which works in close association with local Chest Clinics and Sanatoria, continued its activities on behalf of tuberculosis persons and their dependents. The assistance granted during the year included the supply of extra nourishment, fuel, bedding, clothing, sick-room requisites, etc., and the payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be met from official sources.

Mass Radiography

No significant abnormality was discovered in 1,530 persons (1,080 men and 450 women) who were examined through the normal Mass Radiography Service. A further 1,480 persons were examined in industrial surveys with similar results.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Small-pox

Vaccination against small-pox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the Borough. Particulars of notifications of vaccination performed by private medical practitioners during the years are as follows:-

	0 - 1 <u>year</u>	1 - 5 <u>years</u>	5 - 15 <u>years</u>	Total <u> </u>
Primary Vaccination	76	65	15	156
Re-vaccination	-	5	46	51

The total numbers of primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations were very substantially lower than usual, and especially so as compared with those for the previous year, when there was an enormously increased demand for protection because of the occurrence of outbreaks of small-pox in several parts of the country. The fall in primary vaccinations of infants under the age of one year was largely influenced by the official advice that infant vaccination is preferably postponed until the second year.

Records of vaccinations and re-vaccinations are not now required in respect of persons over the age of fifteen years; these were formerly included in the totals and, for the most part, related to persons who required valid International Certificates of Vaccination for the purpose of foreign travel.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1954/58</u>	<u>1949/53</u>	<u>Total</u>
	316	340	16	6	-	3	-	681

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 718 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

Although there were rather fewer primary immunisations than in 1962, a proportionately greater number were of infants in the younger age groups. It is estimated that not less than 80.0 per cent of the child population in the Borough have been artificially immunised against diphtheria.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The County Council's scheme is aimed at the vaccination against whooping cough of infants under the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later. The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1954/58</u>	<u>1949/53</u>	<u>Total</u>
	314	340	15	4	-	1	-	674

Reinforcing injections of whooping cough vaccine were given to 146 children who had completed a course of primary immunisation a year previously.

Vaccination against Tetanus

Vaccination against tetanus is available to children whose parents expressly wish them to be so protected. It is the present practice to advise primary immunisation against tetanus before the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later and again at school entry and between the ages of eight and twelve years. Tetanus vaccine may be given separately, but is usually combined with the agents used for active immunisation against diphtheria. A quadruple vaccine for simultaneous immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis has recently become available, but has not yet been officially approved for general use.

The numbers of persons vaccinated against tetanus in 1963, are as follows:-

0 - 4 years	689
5 - 14 years	226
	<u>915</u>
Reinforcing Doses	<u>589</u>

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

There was no extension of the groups eligible for vaccination under the County Council's arrangements, which include persons up to the age of forty years and those who are considered to be exposed to special risk. Oral vaccine has almost entirely superseded Salk vaccine, which is given by injection, and is administered in three doses spaced at intervals of four to eight weeks, followed by reinforcing doses three or four years later.

The numbers vaccinated against poliomyelitis by their own doctors or at County Council's Clinics during the year are as follows:-

	<u>Salk Vaccine</u>	<u>Oral Vaccine</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary immunisation	36	664	700
Reinforcing doses	78	685	763

In addition to the above, 668 persons were given two doses of oral vaccine to complete immunisation already begun with Salk vaccine.

Measles prophylaxis

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts. Two requests for serum were received during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

The County Council's arrangements for routine B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis extend to thirteen-year-old pupils at County Council and independent schools, and also to some older pupils and students at County Colleges and other establishments for further education. Subject to the consent of their parents, persons in these groups are skin tested to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculosis infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. vaccination. The object of the scheme is to protect young people before they are exposed to serious risk of infection.

Testing was conducted at thirteen schools in the Borough during the year, with the following results:-

Number of pupils in age group	1021
Number consenting to treatment	743
Percentage consenting to treatment	72.8%
Number Mantoux tested	673
Number of negative reactors	627
Percentage giving negative reaction	93.1%
Number vaccinated	627
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	100%
Percentage of age group vaccinated	61.4%

In addition to the above, 46 pupils who, for one reason or another, had failed to attend on previous occasions were skin tested: 42 were negative reactors and were successfully vaccinated.

The foregoing figures are generally in accord with the findings for previous years, apart from an increase in the proportion of negative reactors. This is, no doubt, directly related to the declining incidence of infectious cases of tuberculosis in the community.

While the primary purpose of the scheme is the ascertainment and vaccination of children who have not already had a primary infection, it is the usual practice to arrange, where possible, for x-ray examination of positive reactors to exclude the possibility of active infection. No unfavourable x-ray findings were reported during the year.

It was not necessary to conduct a special investigation at any school or college in the Borough because of the occurrence of an infectious case of tuberculosis amongst pupils or members of the teaching staff.

Protection against other diseases

Prophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as cholera, yellow fever, etc. is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic and is usually undertaken at specified centres.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in relation to insured persons and the Registrar's weekly returns of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applications for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme. The occurrence of cases at the Day Nursery and in residential children's homes is also reported.

Towards the end of January, the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance reported that sickness benefit claims had, for a short period, reached epidemic level. This was mainly due to an outbreak of influenza and fairly widespread prevalence of common colds and respiratory ailments. The influenza had its highest incidence amongst young adults and was relatively mild in clinical type, though convalescence was, in most cases, prolonged because of the exceptionally severe weather at that time.

The staff of the Public Health Department investigated and assisted in the control of an outbreak of acute infective tonsillitis at a private school in the Borough. Seventeen pupils and four members of the teaching and domestic staffs were found to be infected and were placed in isolation. Prophylactic treatment of the remainder prevented the occurrence of further cases

There were also reports of 41 cases of German measles, mainly in the southern part of the Borough, 38 cases of chicken-pox, which was general in distribution and 10 moderately severe cases of mumps. There were also occasional and circumscribed outbreaks of moderately severe vomiting and diarrhoea, mainly affecting school children and believed to be of virus causation. Appropriate precautionary measures were taken. It was not found necessary to advise the temporary closure of any school or department to prevent the spread of non-notifiable infectious illness.

Disinfection

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles which are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

The Disinfecting Station requires complete re-decoration and extensive repair and the steam disinfecting plant is practically worn out. The lay-out of the Station, which includes a section for the cleansing of verminous persons, was no doubt reasonably suitable for its intended purpose when it was erected some fifty years ago, but it cannot now be regarded as satisfactory by modern standards. The Council has accordingly approved proposals for major alterations and modernisation of the building, the installation of new disinfecting plant and the incorporation of a small laundry unit. Although the station is not now used as extensively as in the past, owing to reduction in the incidence of verminous infestation and changing views on the value of terminal disinfection, it still serves a very useful purpose, not only for the Borough, but also for neighbouring sanitary districts.

Uncleanliness

Pediculosis

Pediculosis has virtually ceased to be a problem in the Borough and the routine cleanliness inspection of school children has, accordingly, been discontinued and replaced by a system of selective following-up of cases of uncleanliness discovered by other means.

There were only ten instances of pediculosis in 1963 - 9 school children and one infant under school age - and the infestation in each case was confined to nits in the hair. All were promptly and satisfactorily cleansed in their own homes and it was not necessary, therefore, to make use of the special facilities provided for the cleansing of verminous persons.

Scabies

Four cases of scabies were reported. The persons affected (2 adults and 2 school-children) were satisfactorily cleansed, with the assistance of the Public Health Department, and suitable precautionary measures were taken in relation to five home contacts.

BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963

Public Health Department,
Caberfeigh,
24 Hatchlands Road,
Redhill, Surrey.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1963.

The year has been notable for several outstanding features on widely different aspects of the work, each with the common factor that its passing was quiet and unobtrusive, nevertheless they were all of some importance in the general pattern of environmental health in the Borough.

Post war programmes to deal with the unfit houses in the Borough, readily adopted by the Council, reached a major turning point when the last of the really poor blocks of sub-standard, unfit accommodation were represented early in the year in the Cromwell Road area of Redhill. Mopping up will best describe the remaining work in this sphere. As a result of action since 1945 three hundred and four unfit houses have been demolished, forty-seven dwellings closed and 833 persons rehoused in better conditions as a result.

Consequent upon the reopening of the slaughterhouse at Merstham by the local Master Butchers' Association in May a new standard in hygienic slaughtering, dressing, and handling of carcase meat was achieved. With the advent of the new Meat Inspection Regulations a few months later a further advance was made in the efficient control over the now compulsory inspection of all meat produced locally. Perforce these two factors must have resulted in a new "high" in the standard of the Borough's meat supply.

The test baiting of sewers, carried out in May each year as a vital routine rodent control measure, this time revealed no rat infestation in the sewerage systems generally, the first occasion since treatments have been initiated and certainly therefore for the first time since the Borough has had a sewerage system to call it's own. This is the culmination of the systematic treatment and control work carried out by the Pest Officers for the past twenty years.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act slipped surreptitiously past the legislators in July, although it was not to come into force until some time in 1964. A brand new Act, heralded as the office workers' charter it indicated work aplenty for the Inspectorate. Opportunity was taken to commence compiling a dossier of the new premises now within the "dragnet" of health and welfare amenity control.

Towards the end of the year proposals were approved for the improvement and modernisation of the Council's disinfecting station, originally opened in 1912 and now badly in need of something more than routine repair and face-lift. Apart from an improved, self-contained layout and a new steam disinfecter, the scheme included a small modern laundry.

Altogether 1963 may be recalled as a year of both satisfactory and satisfying progress and, although we still found the odd fly in the ointment or the mould on the sausage, both consolidation and advance were encouraging. Once again I am happy to acknowledge my indebtedness to Dr. T. H. Bingham, the Medical Officer of Health, for his friendly help and advice on numerous occasions; the support and ready service at any hour of my colleagues; and as always the consideration shown by the members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

R. FRANKHAM
Chief Public Health Inspector

20th July, 1964

Infectious Disease, Disinfection and Disinfestation

During the year 69 visits of enquiry were made on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in connection with cases of infectious disease and suspected food poisoning.

The disinfection and disinfestation of material continued to be carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station at the Disposal Works, Redhill. This was done either in the steam disinfecting apparatus or by chemical means in the fumigation chamber. As in former years this service was also available to the neighbouring Rural District Councils of Dorking & Horley and Godstone, and the Urban District Council of Caterham & Warlingham.

In October, proposals were put forward for a major modernisation of the Station, to generally improve the layout and to replace obsolete and worn-out equipment. It was hoped to incorporate a small modern laundry in the scheme, to fill a need becoming more apparent in recent years. Approval was given at the end of the year.

Details are given below of the work carried out at the Station and, unless otherwise indicated, relate to articles of bedding, clothing, furnishings, etc.:-

(1) Reigate Borough

	<u>From</u> <u>Dwelling-houses</u>	<u>From</u> <u>Institutions, etc.</u>
Infectious & Other Diseases	5	63
Vermin (Lice)	6	-
Miscellaneous	47	496
Rooms Disinfected	11	-
Rooms Disinfested	9	-

(2) Caterham & Warlingham U.D.C.

Infectious & Other Diseases	11	-
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The arrangement for the disinfection of library books by formalin vapour continued to be available, but was required on one occasion only in 1963.

The infestation of dwelling-houses by vermin, such as bed-bugs and fleas, remained a rare occurrence; two cases of each were dealt with. Cleansing and disinfestation were undertaken at nine dwelling-houses and at accommodation at one hotel. Control work for pharaoh's ants and cockroaches at an old people's home and at a hospital necessitated repeated visits over a long period. Insect pest control under contract arrangements was continued at a hospital, a large institution and fire brigade premises. In April the County Education Authority stopped the contracts for pest control generally at schools in the Borough, thereafter the only work undertaken being on a "written order" basis for each problem as and when reported. The cancelling of this system, in operation for 15 years, was unfortunate as there was an immediate loss of the ready liaison and speedy treatment which formerly obtained.

Cases of single elderly persons living in insanitary conditions again arose with regular monotony and "spring cleaning" assistance was given in a number of cases.

The disinfection of telephones in all departments, begun two years ago, was continued throughout the year by the Disinfecting Officer, who dealt with about 160 telephones each month.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

This subject is governed by the following legislation -

- (a) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958
- (b) Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.
- (c) Food & Drugs Act, 1955, Sections 62 to 79 - Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards.
- (d) Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
- (e) Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.
- (f) Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924/52.
- (g) Meat (Staining & Sterilization) Regulations, 1960.
- (h) Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

Ten applications by slaughtermen for the renewal of their licences were granted at the beginning of the year. No infringements of the Act were noted during 1963.

Following extensive works of reorganisation and improvement, carried out over a period of ten months, the Merstham slaughterhouse occupied by the East Surrey Master Butchers' Association Ltd. was reopened in May. Prior to this the Butchers' Association had continued slaughtering at Charlwood, within the area of the Dorking & Horley Rural District Council, and the Reigate Public Health Inspectors carried on with assistance in meat inspection there, as had been agreed in 1962. The redesigned slaughterhouse at Merstham provided for all of the following, viz:- an improved layout to give a "line-system" of slaughter and dressing; increased space in slaughterhall, cooling room and despatch area; covered accommodation throughout and yet more complete separation between the "dirty" and "clean" operations; modern equipment for humane slaughter and hygienic handling; and improved office and changing room facilities. As a result, the resumption of operations produced a marked improvement in hygiene and efficiency and, indeed, in the general attitude to the job by the slaughtering staff; in addition, there was evidence of an enhanced standard in the dressed carcasses.

New Meat Inspection Regulations came into operation in October, laying down certain rigid requirements for the inspection of home-killed meat. These included the necessity for all freshly killed carcase meat to be inspected prior to removal from the slaughterhouse and the requirement that it must be marked when passed as fit for human consumption. This tightening of control was long overdue and very welcome, but made little difference to the pattern of meat inspection at the Merstham slaughterhouse, where 100% inspection has been achieved invariably since government decontrol of slaughtering in 1954. The results of meat inspection are given in the accompanying Tables on pages 36 to 39, where the figures are given separately for Charlwood and Merstham, but relating throughout only to meat dealt with by the Reigate inspectorate. The incidence of disease found on post-mortem inspection was lower than in 1962, with tuberculosis continuing at a minimal level. The number of cattle found to be affected with cysticercus bovis, a parasitic disease which may lead to the development of tapeworm in humans, increased during the year, probably due in part to the greater number of bovine animals inspected.

In calculating the percentage of animals found on inspection to be affected by disease other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis, figures relating to cattle and sheep affected with liver fluke, and to pigs suffering from pneumonia or lung congestion, are disregarded as these are common conditions which are not of value for comparative statistical purposes.

The licensed knacker's yard at Three Arch Road, Redhill, continued in operation throughout the year, being mainly used for the cutting up of carcases of animals which had died or had been slaughtered on the owners' premises. Routine inspections revealed that, although a satisfactory standard of hygiene was being maintained, certain minor improvements were required, mainly in connection with improved water supply in the lairage and screening of the horse slaughtering bay.

MEAT INSPECTION

CHARLWOOD SLAUGHTERHOUSE 1.1.63 TO 10.5.63.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle (excluding Bulls and Cows)	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>NUMBER KILLED</u>	219	-	15	24	130	685
<u>NUMBER INSPECTED</u>	219	-	15	24	130	685
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	-	2	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	61	-	7	-	1	212
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	27.85%	-	60%	-	2.3%	31.5%
	^{/b} (15.06%)	-	^{/b} (26.6%)	-	^{/b} (0.77%)	(15.9%) [≡]
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1.46%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

^{/b} Percentage excluding Distomatosis

[≡] Percentage excluding Pneumonia and
Congestion of Lungs

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was
1 ton, 2 Qtrs.

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the period

MEAT INSPECTION

MURSEHAM SLAUGHTERHOUSE - 12.5.63 TO 31.12.63.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle (excluding Bulls and Cows)	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>NUMBER KILLED</u>	769	2	66	184	1733	2052
<u>NUMBER INSPECTED</u>	769	2	66	184	1733	2052
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	--	-	2	-	2	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	186	-	22	-	29	453
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24% / (18.6%)	-	36.4% / (21.2%)	-	1.8% / (0.75%)	22.3% II (6%)
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	.53%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	10	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

/ Percentage excluding Distomatosis

II Percentage excluding Pneumonia and
Congestion of Lungs

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was
1 ton 12 cwts.

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the
period.

Description	Number Slaughtered	Tuberculosis		Other Conditions											TOTAL			
		Generalised	Localised	Fever	Dropsy and/or Emaciation also	Congestion	Injury	Septicaemia	Nephritis	Distomatosis & Cirrhosis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Pneumonia		Cavernous Angioma	Miscellaneous	
BOVINES (excluding calves)	234																	3
Whole Cacases and Offal																		5
Part Carcases																		8
Heads and Tongues																		45
Lungs																		-
Livers and Part Livers	24																	-
Mesentery and Intestines																		-
CALVES																		-
Whole Carcases and Offal																		-
Lungs																		-
Livers	130																	-
SHEEP																		1
Whole Carcases and Offal																		-
Part Carcases																		-
Lungs																		-
Livers	685																	-
PIGS																		3
Whole Carcases and Offal																		44
Part Carcases																		10
Heads and Tongues			10															123
Lungs																		32
Livers																		-
Mesentery and Intestines																		-
TOTALS	1073	-	10	-	-	33	13	1	1	19	31	26	38	74	7	21	274	

Description	Number Slaughtered	Tuber- culosis		Other Conditions											TOTAL				
		Generalised	Localised	Fever	Dropsy and/ or Emaciation also Immaturity	Congestion	Injury	Septicaemia	Nephritis	Distomatosis & Cirrhosis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Pneumonia		Cavernous Angioma	Miscellaneous		
BOVINES (excluding calves) Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers and Part Livers Mesentery and Intestines	837			1				1											
CALVES Whole Carcases and Offal Lungs Livers	184																		
SHEEP Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Lungs Livers	1733							2											
PIGS Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Lungs Livers	2052																		
TOTALS	4806		11	1	-	126	8	4	4	35	103	36	138	105	13	90	674		

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 8 & 9 - Food Unfit for Human Consumption

The inspection of foodstuffs generally continued to be made during the day-to-day inspection of food premises, during sampling visits, and also at the special request of traders. Calls in the last category are minimal nowadays, as obviously unfit pre-packed foods are returned through trade channels as a matter of routine.

There were twenty-two complaints to the Department during the year of alleged unsatisfactory food, of which seven cases were found to be unjustified. Of the remainder, eight cases were of foreign material in the food, five were of food alleged to be unsound and two related to dirty food containers. One incident, that of a piece of wire in a cake, was reported to the Public Health Committee and the baker in question was later formally warned. In most of the cases involving foreign material, despite all the modern aids to hygienic production and packing, accidental contamination arose as a result of failure of the human element. In all of these immediate action was taken by the manufacturer to eliminate the defective equipment or to correct the unsatisfactory operation, as applicable. Of the five incidents relating to unsound food, two involved mould on sausages and pies respectively, one was of decomposing apples, one of sour tinned tapioca pudding and one of abnormal oily taste in tinned salmon, none so serious as to require formal action.

During 1963 the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered to the Inspectors for disposal at the Council's Refuse Disposal Works:-

Meat and offal	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ewts.
Meat - canned	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
Ham - canned	140 lbs
Fish	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.
Milk Powder	56 lbs.
Sugar and Preserves	1 cwt.
Confectionery (including Frozen food)	73 lbs.
Tinned fish	57 tins
" fruit	596 tins
" fruit juice	28 tins
" milk	61 tins
" soup	7 tins
" vegetables	264 tins and jars
Tinned and Packet food (miscellaneous)	87 tins and packets

This work involved 62 visits by the Inspectors.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 13 to 21 - Hygiene in connection with
the sale of Food, etc. to the Public
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The routine inspection of food premises generally indicated that, with a few exceptions, a satisfactory standard of hygiene was being maintained; no cases arose necessitating report to the Council or legal action. As and when possible, inspections were continued of mobile food traders operating from vehicles or stalls in the Borough and forty-one routine checks were made in such cases. Generally reasonable standards were found and no serious contraventions were noted. However, despite the increased interest in these "mobiles", there is still plenty of evidence of the need for adequate control by registration or licensing.

Primary inspections made at food premises were as follows:-

Catering Establishments	...	...	...	63
Bakehouses	...	...	...	27
Grocers	...	...	...	71
Butchers	...	...	...	58
Fruiterers & Greengrocers	...	...	...	27
Fishmongers	...	...	...	28
Confectioners	...	...	...	32
Vehicles and Stalls	...	...	...	41

Routine follow-up inspections under the Regulations involved
350 visits.

The Register of food premises now includes the following:-

Grocers, etc.	101
Butchers, etc.	36
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	38
Fishmongers and Fish-fryers	19
Confectioners (including 10 bakehouses) ...	99
Catering Establishments (including 69 Public Houses and 25 School canteen-kitchens)	177
Food Manufactories	2
Food Vehicles	16

Six hundred and twenty-five visits of inspection were made to the above-named food premises.

Premises which are required to be registered under Section 16 are shown below in detail as being on the register at the end of 1963.

(a) Manufacture and sale of preserved food, etc.:

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Butchers, etc.	28	45
Fish-fryers	11	34
Bakers (manufacture of meat pies)	2	7
Delicatessen shops	3	15
Total	44	101

(b) Manufacture of Ice-Cream

Confectioner	2	9
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(c) Storage and sale of Ice-Cream

Confectioners, etc.	85	45
Grocers, etc.	38	26
Fruiterers, etc.	5	14
Newsagents, etc.	4	7
Garages (Not selling yet) ...	1	-
Total	133	92

In addition to the above-named premises, there are 13 catering establishments where ice-cream is sold for consumption off the premises which are exempt from registration under existing law, and one where soft ice-cream is manufactured.

During the year another confectioner's shop was registered for the manufacture of soft ice-cream, prepared in the shop in a special machine from a complete powder or liquid mix. The arrangements made for the purpose had been approved and the retailer had agreed to adopt the special code of practice issued by the department.

The arrangement was continued with the Borough Engineer whereby any plans of food premises generally, submitted for byelaw approval, were examined in this Department and comments made on any aspect of environmental hygiene involved. In general, these related to the provision of adequate light and ventilation, suitable sanitary accommodation, properly sited ablution facilities and the provision of suitable interior finishes to floors, walls and ceilings. Invariably co-operation by architects and builders has been good.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 89 - 99
Sampling and Analysis

One hundred and twenty-six samples purchased by the Sampling Officers were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, 50 being formal samples and the remainder taken informally. They covered a wide range of commodities and in seven cases were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Details of these seven samples are as follows, the conclusion reached in each case also being indicated, viz:-

- Sample No. 20 - Pickled cucumbers - added preservative not declared - Labelling amended to comply with Regulations.
- Sample No. 62 - Sparkling Bitter Lemon Mineral Drink - quinine content not disclosed - Labelling amended.
- Sample No. 72 - Pork sausages - added preservative not declared Butcher not aware of preservative in sausage seasoning; seasoning manufacturer completely amended form of labelling to comply.
- Sample No. 76 - Dried Mixed Herbs - ingredients not declared on label - Labelling amended.
- Sample No. 86 - White Meat Tunney - salt content not declared - Found to be a discontinued line and no other stocks located; foreign origin could not be traced.
- Sample No. 100 - Milk Shake - made with reconstituted dried milk and also contained excess of water - Formal warning to vendor.
- Sample No. 110 - Tinned Salmon - abnormal flavour, contaminated with oil.- Remaining stocks withdrawn.

A table of the foods and drugs sampled during the year is set out on page 43

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926 and Orders made thereunder

These Orders relate to the following imported foodstuffs:

Fresh apples; currants, sultanas and raisins; eggs (in shell); dried eggs; oat products; raw tomatoes; bacon and ham; dead poultry; meat; margarine; malt products; frozen or chilled salmon and sea trout; butter; honey.

They provide that on sale the goods shall bear an indication of the country of origin, the object being to give the purchasing public the opportunity of choosing between goods of Home, Empire or Foreign origin.

Upwards of fifty inspections were made at retail shops during the year, and minor contraventions noted related to apples and tomatoes; no case arose requiring special report or statutory action.

Milk and Dairies General Regulations, 1959

The entries in the Registers required to be kept in accordance with the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

Distributors:

(a)	With 3 dairies in the Borough	...	...	...	2
(b)	With dairies outside the Borough	...	...	...	5
(c)	With premises in the Borough	...	...	...	29
(bottled milk sold in general shops)					

Of the three dairies, two were used only for the cold storage and distribution of bottled milk. The third is in premises equipped with a high-temperature short-time pasteurising apparatus and other modern fittings. Frequent inspections of these dairies were made during the year, with special attention to the last mentioned one; they were maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the period. As has applied for several years now all milk sold in the Borough must be heat-treated, with the exception of farm-bottled tuberculin-tested milk. Frequent samples of the various grades were taken on a regular sampling basis, and only one result was unsatisfactory, relating to farm-bottled milk produced outside the Borough.

A detailed report on the samples of milk taken in 1963 from producers and distributors, and submitted for bacteriological examination, is given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SAMPLING

(Public Analyst: D. D. Moir Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.)

FOODSTUFFS	SAMPLES TAKEN				Total	Genuine	Adversely Reported upon
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter			
Milk	4	12	5	2	23	22	1
Cream	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Milkshake	-	-	-	4	4	3	1
Ice-cream	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Cheese Products	-	1	2	1	4	4	-
Sauces & Pickles	4	1	-	2	7	6	1
Dried Fruit	-	-	-	2	2	2	-
Confectionery	-	1	2	2	5	5	-
Flavourings & Colours	1	-	1	2	4	4	-
Mixed Herbs & Spices	-	2	3	-	5	4	1
Sausages Pork	2	2	2	-	6	5	1
Sausages Beef	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Meat Pasty	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Cooked Meats	-	3	3	-	6	6	-
Meat & Fish Products	1	-	-	2	3	2	1
Foods Miscellaneous	5	4	6	6	21	21	-
Soft Drinks	-	-	10	-	10	9	1
Beer	-	-	-	2	2	2	-
Cider	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Whisky	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Vodka	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Drugs, Various	4	4	4	5	17	17	-
TOTALS	22	30	39	35	126	119	7

Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments

The premises used for the purpose of carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber in the Borough are subject to bye-laws made in 1954, under Section 135 of the Surrey County Council Act, 1936. These bye-laws require the persons carrying on the business to maintain cleanliness of the premises and of the instruments, towels, equipment and materials used therein. During 1963 no serious infringement of the bye-laws was noted. At the end of the year, the register of premises contained particulars of 13 men's and 28 women's establishments.

Factories Act, 1961

The Table on page 45 shows in detail the various trades in the Borough that come within the scope of the Acts. During the year 146 inspections were made. The Register of factories has been further brought up-to-date and now contains 245 entries; in 9 cases defects relating particularly to sanitary accommodation and general cleanliness were discovered; defects in 9 factories were remedied. H.M. Inspector of Factories drew attention during the year to one case involving defects which came within the sections of the Factories Act enforceable by the Local Authority.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There is only one factory which is subject to the provisions of this Act - one in which spring mattresses are manufactured. This is registered in accordance with Section 2. No samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during 1963.

Housing Acts, 1957 & 1961

Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954 and Rent Act, 1957

Housing Subsidies Act, 1956

Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956

Housing (Management of Houses in Multi-Occupation) Regulations, 1962

Steady progress was made during 1963 on housing work involved in completing the second year of the second five-year programme for the clearance of about another 100 unfit houses. As a result, 29 dwellings were reported to the Council as unfit for human habitation, all but one being in Clearance Areas in the Cromwell Road area of Redhill. Thirty-seven homes were demolished as a result of earlier action and, in all, thirteen families (32 persons) were rehoused from unfit houses during the year.

Only two applications were received for certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957; in the one case a certificate was issued and in the other the owner gave an undertaking to carry out the repairs.

Inspections were continued at houses in multi-occupation throughout the year and improvements in amenities were sought in several cases. The need to recommend applying a management order did not arise at any such house. In co-operation with the Borough Engineer, close control was exercised on any proposed conversions of this character.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

The Public Health Inspectors continued to supervise work in connection with standard grants and 41 applications were dealt with, 40 being approved. Schemes were completed at 25 houses and, in consequence, the following improvements were achieved:- 21 baths in separate bathrooms, 21 washhand basins, 23 hot water supplies, improved water closet accommodation in 16 cases and 9 foodstores installed. Two hundred and fifty-three visits of inspection were made in connection with this work generally. There was again a small increase in the number of owners seeking grants for tenanted houses, eleven applications being received.

Factories Act, 1937 - List of Factories
on Register at end of 1963

					<u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>No</u> <u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>
Agricultural Engineers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Art Leather Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Bakers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	11	-
Basket Work .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Book Binder .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Boot Makers and Repairers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	-
Brick Makers, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Builders and Contractors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7	5
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	2
Cork Disc and Insulation Manufacturers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Corn and Seed Merchants .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	-
Dairy (Milk Processing) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Dressmakers and Milliners .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	2
Dry Cleaners .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	-
Engineers Automobile .. .. .	..	..	..	..	28	-
Engineers Electrical .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	2
Engineers Light .. .. .	..	..	..	..	36	1
Essence Makers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Film Processing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Food Manufacturers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Foundries .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	-
Fullers Earth Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Fur Processing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Furniture Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Gas Holder Station .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Glass Cutting and Paint Packing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Hardware Assembly .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Hearthstone Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Hide Tanning .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Knacker's Yard .. .. .	..	..	..	..	-	1
Laundries .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	-
Locomotive Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Log Sawing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Mattress Manufacturer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Monumental Masons and Undertakers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Motor Body Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7	-
Motor Cycle and Cycle Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	3
Newspaper Fudging .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	-
Photographic Works, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	-
Picnic Furniture Manufacture .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Plastics - Makers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	-
Precast Concrete Manufacturers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Printers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	9	-
Radio Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	-	1
Rust Proofing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Sanitary Engineers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	2
Scale Repairers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Sewing Machine Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Sheet Metal Workers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	-
Shoeing and General Smiths .. .. .	..	..	..	..	-	1
Soldering Outfit Assembly .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1
Steel Wool Manufacturer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Suitcase Manufacturer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Tailors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	1
Thermometer Manufacturer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Timber Merchants .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	-
Tyre Repairs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Watchmakers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	-
Wax Refining Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	-
Building Sites and Works of Engineering Construction					35	-
TOTALS					224	22

Towards the end of the year a suitable small area was selected in Redhill of about 130 houses, comprised in four roads, for carrying out a survey of standards generally, with a view to "pushing" grant assistance to both landlords and tenants. The block is practically all residential in character, with mainly semi-detached houses built about sixty years ago, sound in construction and suitable for improvement. The survey was still in progress at the end of 1963, when an appreciable number of the occupiers had been interviewed and advised, following inspections; to date results were most disappointing.

Liaison continued to be exercised with the Borough Engineer in proposals dealing with discretionary grant applications, and 48 such cases were referred to this Department for observations during the year. As a result of this close liaison and of past experience in this matter a useful code of standards has been attained covering such matters as general repair; measures against rising dampness; interior finishes to existing kitchens; thermal insulation of walls and floors; safeguards on combined water services; and exterior paving.

Consequent on this grant assistance generally, 73 housing units were brought up to a reasonable standard of both repair and amenity in 1963.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

This Order deals with the inspection and licensing of boiling-plants used by collectors of waste food for animal feeding. Such waste food may spread foot-and-mouth and other animal diseases if not properly boiled for at least one hour.

No new licences arose during the year and inspections of all existing waste food plants indicated that the requirements of the Order were being generally observed. At one piggery, works were put in hand to improve the waste food boiling area.

Fairground Sanitation

There were two fairs operating for short periods in the Borough during 1963, and both were visited and inspected for general sanitary arrangements. The provision of temporary sanitary accommodation and an emptying and cleansing service continued to be provided where applicable by the Borough Engineer at appropriate charges and, in consequence of this and the close supervision maintained, standards were satisfactory.

Heating Appliances (Fire Guards) Act, 1952, and Regulations, 1953 Oil Heaters Regulations, 1962

The Heating Appliances Regulations deal with safety guards for electric, gas and oil space-heating appliances and standards adopted by manufacturers invariably ensure compliance with the requirements. In consequence, it is becoming increasingly rare to find a contravention; none was found on inspections carried out during the year.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

This Act, on nuisances arising generally from noise, does not lay down rigid standards on permissible noise levels; indeed, it would appear most difficult to do so, variable as the problem will be in each case on location and distance, intensity and duration, and the time of day or night involved. Ten complaints under this heading required detailed investigation; two were found to be unjustified and four were such as to need a number of observations during evening hours. As one might expect, at least half the problems arose from industrial processes; in two instances excessive noise from practising band groups was alleged, and yet again barking dogs featured among the annoyances reported. No case arose where statutory action was called for and improvements were generally achieved following informal representations.

Complaints

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of premises	...	...	...	69
Defective dustbin	...	...	...	-
House drainage	...	...	...	75
Cesspools overflowing	...	...	...	15
Non-removal of house refuse	...	...	...	4
Rats or Mice	...	...	...	491
Other Vermin (Foxes, Badgers, etc.)	...	...	...	2
Other insect pests	...	...	...	27
Wasps nests	...	...	...	118
Unsound food (sold)	...	...	...	23
Keeping of animals, etc.	...	...	...	2
Smoke nuisance	...	...	...	1
Noise nuisance	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	65

Notices Issued and Action Taken

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year:-

Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1963	...	...	...	109
Issued during year	...	...	...	243
Complied with during year	...	...	...	183
Statutory action necessary	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1963	...	...	...	167

Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1963	...	...	...	2
Issued during year	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1963	...	...	...	-

Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, both voluntarily and in consequence of notices in respect of dwelling-houses, food premises, factories, and other business premises.

Dwelling-houses

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Eaves-gutters and stack-pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Chimney-stacks rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork (houses)	...	...	...	...	15
Other causes of dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	4
External paintwork renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Drains examined or tested (primary inspections only)	...	...	...	...	88
Drainage systems repaired, extended or relaid	...	...	...	...	33
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	48
Soil or ventilation pipes installed or renewed	...	...	...	...	8
New W.Cs. installed	...	...	...	...	26
W.C. apparatus renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Sewage treatment plants or cesspools repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Cesspools abolished, houses connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	1
Rooms cleansed or redecorated	...	...	...	...	2
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Floors, windows and doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	26
Food stores provided	...	...	...	...	17
Sinks installed or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Washhand basins renewed or installed	...	...	...	...	26
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Hot water supply installed	...	...	...	...	25
Baths installed	...	...	...	...	25
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	3
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	11

Food Premises

Food storage and display improved	...	...	...	8
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	10
Rooms cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	...	28
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired			...	5
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	9
Preparation tables repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
Washhand basins installed	...	...	...	4
Ablution facilities otherwise improved	...	...	...	12
First Aid Equipment provided	...	...	...	6
Sinks renewed or installed	...	...	...	3
Constant hot water supply installed	...	...	...	6
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	2
Dustbins renewed / bin areas improved	...	...	...	1
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	19

Factories

Drainage systems improved	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	...	6
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2

Other Business Premises

New W.Cs. provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage system improved or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sinks/washhand basins installed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	4

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 - Rodent Control

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the tabulated statement given below.

	<u>Local</u> <u>Author-</u> <u>ity</u>	<u>#</u> <u>Dwelling</u> <u>Houses</u>	<u>Agri-</u> <u>cul-</u> <u>tural</u>	<u>All other</u> <u>(including</u> <u>Business &</u> <u>Industrial)</u>	<u>Total</u>
I. Total No. of properties in Local Authority's district	38	16,195	50	2,870	19,153
II. No. of properties inspected during 1963 as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	14	403	2	72	491
(b) Survey	37	45	105	263	450
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for another purpose)	26	192	5	253	456
III. Total inspections, including re-inspections	975	3,348	321	1,134	5,778
IV. No. of properties inspected (under II) found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats	20	294	10	65	389
(b) Mice	5	51	-	1	57
V. No of infested properties (under IV) treated by Local Authority	25	345	10	66	446
VI. No. of "block control" schemes carried out.	3	42	-	3	48

* Council houses are included under dwelling-houses

Rat infestations dealt with showed a small increase in numbers compared with the previous year, mainly at dwelling-houses; mice problems were correspondingly smaller.

Inspection and control work on agricultural land was maintained throughout the year without any major problem. Period arrangements, on a quarterly charge basis, for regular disinfestations by Pests Officers of the Department were continued with satisfactory results in seven cases, relating to four agricultural holdings and three business premises. Similar arrangements were also made early in the year in respect of a large controlled tip commenced in Merstham. Charges at business premises continued unaltered, the occupier being required to meet the cost of the treatment on a basis of 10/- an hour, with a minimum charge of 15/-d.

Routine treatment of the sewerage system of the Borough was carried out during the year, when the results of tests made were again satisfactory. They indicated that rat infestation in the sewers was at the lowest-ever level, of over 400 manholes tested none was found to give evidence of infestation. Regular control was continued throughout the year at the Council's Refuse and Sewage Disposal Works and on the banks of the stream flowing through Redhill and Earlswood.

The control work already detailed was exclusive of that carried out under contract arrangements with:-

- (a) the Surrey County Council at St Anne's, Redhill, and its ancillary homes, day nursery, clinics, fire brigade premises, etc.;
- (b) the Group Hospital Management Committee at the Redhill General Hospital.

Apart from this rodent control work the officers were engaged at Corporation property in dealing with other pests, such as rabbits, foxes, badgers and moles; also 118 wasps' nests were destroyed during the summer period.

Education and Instruction

As in the past, educational visits were arranged to the Refuse Disposal Works, Sewage Works, Disinfecting Station and Caravan Sites; also to a local cinema on modern controlled ventilation and heating. In the main, these visits have been for organised parties of Student Nurses, Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors; altogether a total of 110 visited the Borough during the year.

